

First Uncensored Figures Show 14,000,000 Men at War

Allies Heavily Outnumber Foes on All but West Front, Where Forces are Even—British Reserve Looks Strongest.

By JOHN L. BALDERSTON.

(Copyright, 1916.)

As this third and bloodiest summer campaign of the great war nears its climax, the fighting strength in men of the warring powers stands approximately as follows:

Entente.

Great Britain, 78 divisions of about 1,500,000 men.
Russia, 147 infantry, 35 cavalry divisions, of about 3,100,000 men.
France, about 90 divisions of about 1,800,000 men.
Italy, 55 divisions of about 1,100,000 men.
Rumania, 25 divisions of about 500,000 men.
Serbia, 5 divisions of about 100,000 men.
Belgium, 3 divisions of about 60,000 men.

Total entente fighting strength, about 403 divisions, of which 36 are Russian cavalry, comprising about 12,250,000 men.

Central Powers.

Germany, 160 divisions of about 3,200,000 men.
Austria, 80 divisions of about 1,600,000 men.
Turkey, 48 divisions of not more than 500,000 men.
Bulgaria, 23 divisions of about 400,000 men.

Total Central European fighting strength, 311 divisions, comprising about 5,700,000 men.

This article is written in the United States and uncensored. The above figures, compiled from many sources, official and unofficial, are given as approximate only. They are an attempt to show the actual strength on the various fronts, and since they deal only with mobilized divisions, take no account of available reserves. The numbers are calculated, excepting in the case of the Turkish army and of the Russian cavalry, on a basis of 20,000 men to a division. It should be understood that not more than 12,000 to 14,000 men out of the 20,000 men making up a division handle rifles in modern warfare, the odd 8,000 or 8,000 being employed in the auxiliary services.

Before taking up the armies of the powers involved one by one, a few general statements based on the figures contained in this story will be made.

West Front Forces.

On the west front, about eighty-two French and fifty-five British divisions were opposed to 113 German divisions a month ago, the divisions of the allies are of equal strength, that the numerical superiority of the allies on the western front is very slight.

On the main eastern front, before Rumania entered the war, the Russians had 137 infantry divisions and thirty-six divisions of cavalry opposed to forty-two German divisions and fifty Austrian divisions, a numerical superiority for Russia of about five to three.

On the Italian front, fifty-five Italian divisions very recently were opposed to twenty-two Austrian divisions, a disparity of more than two to one, explainable by the handicap imposed on the attacking Italians by the mountainous terrain.

Just before Rumania entered the war, there were in the entrenched camp of Saloniki about ten British divisions, eight French divisions, and five Serbian divisions, with a few brigades of Italians and Russians imported for political effect. Opposed to these twenty-three divisions were about seventeen Bulgarian divisions with from three to six Austro-German divisions within call.

British Underestimated.

Widespread misconception exists concerning the field strength of the British armies because of the King's proclamation which stated that 5,000,000 soldiers had joined the colors. The statement was literally true, but the figure includes killed, wounded and captured since the beginning of the war, men on noncombatant service, in the dependencies, in the reserve army kept in England to guard against invasion and in training, as well as the soldiers facing the enemy.

Great Britain and Ireland are maintaining, at full strength, seventy-one divisions intended for service abroad. Most if not all of them are now on the various fronts. Seventy divisions are under the regular army establishment, and the odd division—the naval division—while technically controlled by the admiralty has fought side by side with army units at the Dardanelles and no longer confines its activities to co-operating with the fleet.

These seventy-one divisions, embodying roughly 1,420,000 men, are exclusive of the contingents furnished by the colonies. Figures furnished by Premier Asquith in secret session of Parliament set forth that the self-governing dominions had agreed to provide, and maintain at full strength, fifteen divisions of infantry, or 300,000 men, in the field. The allotment is divided almost equally between Canada and the Australian and New Zealand commonwealths, South Africa furnishing two divisions. It would appear then that eighty-six divisions of 1,720,000 men represent the fighting strength of the empire, a figure requiring some qualification, because not all of the promised colonial divisions have yet appeared on the firing line.

England's Forces Divided.

It is only possible to give roughly the distribution of the British forces in the different theaters of war. There are in France fifty-five divisions, containing 1,100,000 men, approximately ten divisions, or 200,000 men, in Saloniki; six divisions, or 120,000 men, in Mesopotamia, and two divisions, or 40,000 men, in German East Africa. This enumeration accounts for seventy-eight divisions, and the eight divisions missing from the empire's war strength of eighty-six divisions are not yet at the front. It is not claimed that the apportionment is exactly correct. If it were trouble might result for the writer—I have given the approximate distribution only in the hope of disabusing the reader's mind of the absurd legend current in America that England has two, or even three million combatant troops on the French front.

Compared with the great French army holding most of the western front, and with the legions of Russia and Germany, it does not seem at first glance that the British empire, with its enormous available man power, has done as well as its friends and enemies. The policy of restricting the size of the field armies, however, was deliberately adopted by the war council a year ago, in the belief that in the end it would prove most efficient. Lord Kitchener is universally given credit for the scheme as it was adopted then and is being worked out today.

Kitchener Conceded to Germany. Lord Kitchener from the beginning was satisfied that Germany would have the best of the opening phase of the war, and must be gradually worn down and beaten by a policy of attrition. He accordingly resolutely opposed the plans of some soldiers and some politicians to form a great army of one hundred and twenty-five divisions or more which should take the field, half trained and unsupported by competent reserves, last

spring and this summer. The debate in the secret councils of 1915 centered on whether by such an effort it would be possible to crush Germany in the 1916 campaign. It was obvious that if the effort was made and failed, there would be no men to fill the gaps and the military organization of the empire would be unable to carry out a successful offensive in 1917. Kitchener, with the support of Gen. Sir Archibald Murray, then chief of the imperial General Staff, and later of his successor, Sir William Robertson, contended that a victory in 1916 was impossible and that the army must be organized for a longer war. His arguments won, and time has proven him right.

The government was faced last year with the fact that 5,000,000 armed men represented the extreme limit of the empire's resources, if credit and the navy were for some time, though the counselors who wished to rush through conscription and put as many men as possible in France, Kitchener retorted that the side which could keep its army powerful and efficient longest would win. He brought forward the plan for a field army of eighty-six divisions, supported by reserves calculated to maintain that army at full strength until the end of 1916, even though the units lost 100 per cent a year and had to be entirely replaced. In other words, Britain had at the beginning of the 1916 campaign twice as many reserves as she had soldiers in the field. Each field battalion has a reserve battalion at home from which men are sent to the front, as needed, to take the place of the fallen and the sick. Now that the strength of the German divisions is visibly declining, thanks to Kitchener's plan, the wisdom of Kitchener's plan is becoming manifest, and this time next year, if the war lasts so long, it is hard to see how the eighty-six divisions of Britain—still at full strength—thanks to Kitchener's plan—will be depleted ranks of Hindenburg.

The war may not last until the end of 1916. But Kitchener, as a high officer once remarked to me, has "played the war safe."

French Numbers Declining.

The armies of France, as all students of the war know, have been declining in numbers for some time, though they have been growing stronger in guns, especially big guns, and in shells. The decline in numbers is serious, and will continue to the end, for the boys of the younger classes who are being drafted into the ranks do not make up more than one-fourth or one-fifth the permanent wastage caused by death, wounds and disease. It is improbable, however, that the French armies are losing strength more rapidly than those of Germany, which are bleeding on two fronts instead of one, and in addition France has the inestimable advantage of the support of British units which under the system described can be kept at full strength long after the other continental armies, excepting those of Russia and Italy, have wasted away to shadows.

Mystery Surrounds Wastage.

In order to conceal the rate of wastage, and for other reasons, the French have surrounded their units with much mystery and have made frequent changes, so that it is impossible for an outsider, however well informed, to discuss the strength of the French with the approximate accuracy possible when dealing with the British. But there are good reasons to think that the French armies now aggregate about ninety divisions or 1,800,000 men. If an allowance of five divisions either way be made as a possible margin of error, I was assured by a high authority that my estimate would be within the mark—that is, it can be stated with certainty that the armed strength of France is between 1,700,000 and 1,900,000 men. I am referring to combatant strength, but so heavy has been the drain on French man power that it is doubtful whether any reserves remain in the central depots to fill gaps, excepting the boys of seventeen and eighteen who are in training. When heavy losses are incurred, it is necessary, as it is on the German side, to either abolish certain units or cut down the number of battalions in a division. The permanent French losses have probably reached during the Somme fight the appalling figure of two millions.

There are some eight French divisions at Saloniki under Gen. Sarrail. France has no other commitments away from home, and her remaining eighty-two divisions or so are spread out from the Somme to Switzerland.

Russian Strength Inflated.

Wild estimates are made all over the world about the size of the Russian army, recently I read that the czar has 12,000,000 men under arms. The correct figures have not, I believe, been published in this country. They are here given from official German sources, and represent the belief of the German intelligence department.

There were last month on the main Russian front, from Riga to the Rumanian border, 137 divisions of Russian army, amounting to about 2,740,000 men, and thirty-six cavalry divisions of about 352,000 horsemen. This total of nearly 3,000,000 men represents the largest army in Europe. While the much larger figures commonly given are entirely fabulous, it is true that Russia's supply of men is unlimited and that she cannot only keep her present establishment up to full strength, but form new divisions if sufficient arms and equipment are provided by her allies, America and Japan. In addition to the troops on the main front, Grand Duke Nicholas is said by the Germans to have ten divisions, or 200,000 men, operating in Armenia. The Russian forces now reported in Roumania may be units sent down from the main front or fresh troops appearing from the interior.

Italy Holding Back.

Like England, the Italians have sent only a limited portion of their available troops to the front. There are fifty-five Italian divisions on the whole front, about 1,100,000 men, an army just about the size of that Great Britain has in France this summer. Italy is able to put at least another 1,250,000 men under arms if and when she wants them.

During the great Austrian attack last spring through the mountains of Trentino, Gen. Cadorna rushed up troops from the interior and transferred soldiers from the Isonzo front until he had 522,000 men massed in the Venetian plain waiting for the Austrians if they broke through. They failed, and another redistribution promptly took place, many of these men returning to the Isonzo for another blow which was to take Gorizia. At present the Italian front is relatively lightly held excepting along the Carso plateau, where the drive for Trieste is in progress, and where the majority of Cadorna's fighting men are engaged. It is interesting to note that Austria finds it necessary to maintain only twenty-two divisions against the Italians fifty-five, a fact denoting not that the Italians are poor soldiers, but that the ground in front of them is so unfavorable to the attacking side than on any other front in Europe.

Holding the line of the Year Canal, protected against direct infantry attack by the floods which have covered the country since 1914, are three divisions of Belgians, some 60,000 soldiers in all, the remnants of the Belgian army.

The reconstituted Serbian army, now forming one wing of the polyglot allied aggregation at Saloniki, consists of about five divisions or 100,000 men, and like the Belgians, it has no reserves.

Twenty-five divisions is the figure usually assigned to the Rumanian army during the first two months of war. After the first 500,000 men, it is possible that 200,000 or even 300,000 more may be found to fill the gaps.

Immense German Forces.

The German empire has maintained in the field, since some time in 1915, 160 divisions. This figure is that given by the British and French intelligence departments—which have maps that I have seen giving the location of every German division on both fronts—and it may be taken as approximately accurate. The popular legend, current in England as well as the United States, that Germany has some 2,000,000 troops in reserve ready to launch a great offensive at any time is a good deal of foundation, and has been the subject of much mirth on the allied fronts. At the beginning of May, one of the highest officers in the British army told me at general headquarters: "Germany is not a nation, it is a million men. There will be no more offensives." Since that time, on the Somme, at Verdun and in the east, Germany has lost more than half that number.

The officer in charge of the supply of reserves running out, and that after the "last million" was gone the gaps in the regular establishments could not be filled. The definite statement is now made at British headquarters that the reserves on the enemy's side are exhausted now several months ahead of the anticipated time, unless the Germans are stripping their front to provide a central reserve at the expense of the regular units.

Germany Reducing Battalions.

The one hundred and sixty German divisions, if each division were at its normal strength of 20,000 men, would embody 3,200,000 soldiers. But it has been some time since all the divisions were at full strength, and now definite information has reached the allied staffs that the Germans are reducing the number of battalions in the divisions from twelve to ten. It is yet too early to say whether this is being done throughout the whole army, but it is obviously intended either to bolster up the exhausted central reserves which Hindenburg will need if he is to undertake another offensive or to hide the fact that the losses at the front cannot be made good by drafts.

Of the 160 divisions under the Kaiser, 113 were on the Western front a month ago, about five in the Balkans and on the Danube, forming the nucleus of the army, then forming under Mackensen to guard against the expected attack from Rumania, and the remaining forty-two facing the Russians on the main eastern front from before Riga to Kovol.

One distinguished critic, Col. Repington, takes issue with the view prevalent at the front that the Germans are near the end of their man power. "We ought to be tired of our illusions," he recently declared. "If some of our calculations had been correct the German armies would have been reduced to a quantity not more than half of what they hold on to their old extended fronts, do not hesitate to waste life without counting, and still maintain their establishments up to strength. This is not the behavior of an army that is not yet short of men, nor are they likely to be during the rest of the year. The 1917 class (boys now 19) has not yet been extensively drawn upon for drafts. The 1918 class stands behind. They are the recovered wounded in large numbers, as well as the prisoners, many of whom have been forced to work. From Poland, Belgium and France vast numbers of the population in the occupied territories have been forcibly abducted to take the places in the fields and factories of Germans fit to fight. With these new resources in view it is unsafe to count upon less than two million men still available for drafts, and each year the new class called up adds another 400,000 to 500,000 recruits to the depots. Our Russian and Italian allies have been splendid and have wiped the floor with the Austro-German armies, but the Germans stand behind, and we must none of us entertain any illusions that the breaking down of the German power will not still be a long, a costly and a difficult affair."

Austria's Strength Unknown.

No attempt will be made here to discuss the present distribution of Austrian troops, because the entire of Rumania into the war has doubtless compelled a complete rearrangement concerning which the writer knows nothing. Austria was credited by the allied staffs a month ago with eighty divisions, or 1,600,000 combatants. If the divisions were all up to strength, as they almost certainly were not. This does not count five divisions entirely annihilated by the Russian offensive under Brusiloff, which it is thought have not been reconstituted but have been dropped from the army lists. Only six divisions remained last month in the Trentino district, of the eighteen which conducted the great May offensive against Italy, and sixteen more were reported on the Isonzo, and the rest of the Italian front. Austria then employed 440,000 men against Italy, and an undetermined number of units in the Balkans, possibly eight, and about fifty divisions against the Russians on the Volhynian and Galician fronts.

Owing to the peculiar system used by the Austrian staff, which employs battalions belonging to the same division on different fronts at the same time, and keeps its books straight by methods known only to itself, it is known by the allies about the Austrian army than about the German. The fact that men up to fifty years have actually been incorporated in the Hapsburg armies, however, that the shortage of men is being felt more acutely by Austria than by any other great power.

The most recent information available concerning the Turkish situation is supplied from official sources, by Col. Repington. "The fifty-two Turkish divisions," he says, "have sunk to forty-eight, because the larger number could not be maintained, and of these forty-eight many are weak. They are twenty-six at least on the Armenian front, where that great leader, Yudenitch, is at present pounding them finely, and we can only suppose that the Turkish divisions which have marched across Anatolia from their railheads have lost men at every stage as the custom of Turkish armies is. Several divisions are in Yemen, where the Sheriffs of Mecca and Idris are in the field against them; several more are in Mesopotamia. In Syria are six divisions, and, after Smyrna, the Dardanelles, Constantinople, Thrace, and the coasts have been provided for, there will not be much for Hindenburg to maneuver. If Vienna does not blush at being defended by Turks, that is Vienna's affair."

5,000 in Turkish Division.

Neither Col. Repington nor any other authority in England or France attempts to estimate the available Turkish numbers, to which the army establishment affords no clue, since some divisions have only 5,000 men or so, and others are at full strength. The Austro-German battle about large Turkish forces in Hungary and Galicia is taken in London as intended to cheer up civilians, just as the French were pleased by a small number of Russians who were sent to the western front. It is not thought that a full Turkish division has yet arrived in Hungary.

Six Bulgarian divisions, before the Rumanian declaration of war, were stationed on the Danube to observe their

doubtful neighbor, and these 120,000 men now doubtless form part of Mackensen's army operating against Rumania. The remaining seventeen divisions of Bulgarians, sided by from three to six Austro-German divisions, were encamped about the allied positions near Saloniki last month. The entrance of Rumania has undoubtedly withdrawn many of these troops. The twenty-three Bulgarian divisions are not all at full strength, but the available Bulgarian man power is usually put at around 400,000.

YOUR WEDDING DAY

And the Famous Men and Women Who Have Shared It.

September 17—Thomas Paine and Mary Lambert; John Thomas Serres and Olivia Wilmot.

By MARY MARSHALL.

(Copyright, 1916.)

Neither of the two marriages that stand out on the calendar for September 17 could be called felicitous. But since every day is a lucky wedding day, if we would but make it so, this fact should not deter any one from choosing September 17 on which to begin his married life. The fact that Mary Lambert was a servant maid was not the real reason that her marriage with Thomas Paine, the great Anglo-American free thinker, was not successful. For women who have begun their lives as servants have frequently proved the best sort of wives to men of quite as high intellect as Thomas Paine. At the time of the marriage one could hardly have said that Paine was marrying beneath his station, for he was but a staymaker, and save for the brilliant intellect that he possessed, he had no possessions and no prospects.

At 20 Paine, who was of the humble English origin, was working for a staymaker in London. Later he set up in business for himself at Sandwich, and at 25 he married Mary Lambert, who was a servant in the employ of a woolen draper's wife of that town. Mary was an orphan and possessed little to recommend her to the promising young man, save her willing hands and a generous heart. The young couple set up housekeeping in a very humble way, but they were not congenial. Two years later, when Paine was 24, the wife died, and Paine realized too late the help that the young wife had really been to him.

The adventures, Olivia Wilmot, was the cause of most of the unhappiness of the life of the Englishman, John Thomas Serres. Her extravagance would have been enough to make any husband miserable, but her absurd pretensions actually ruined his reputation, which might have been much more brilliant as a painter had it not been for this unfortunate marriage.

A hundred years ago all England was talking about Mrs. Olivia Serres. Half of those who knew about her were in sympathy with her, and the other half believed her to be the impostor that she really was. She was the daughter of a housepainter and apparently the trade of house painting inclined her to aspirations toward painting of another kind. When still a very young girl she began taking painting lessons, her teacher being none other than the able artist John Thomas Serres, whose marine paintings later attracted very favorable notice. Olivia was a very attractive girl and the painter fell a victim to her charms. She was still under age but with the consent of her father they were married and for a very few months they lived in apparent happiness.

Then Olivia yearned for more excitement than the simple joys of mar-

ried life with a rising young artist afforded. She became proficient in portrait painting herself but this was not enough. Even when she was appointed portrait painter to the Prince of Wales she was not content. She longed to be a member of the royal family, to take a place among the most illustrious of the land. So she conceived her plan of claiming to be the Princess Olive of Cumberland and she gradually spun out a wonderful yarn in which she claimed to have been changed in infancy for a daughter of her alleged father, Wilmot, and actually to have been the daughter of a secret marriage with a member of the royal family of England. To sub-

stantiate these claims it was necessary to produce many documents and these, by very clever forging, Olivia did produce. Meantime after she had spent Serres's scant fortune he was legally separated from her and Olivia went on alone making her absurd claims. It was not till after her death that the real extent of her falsehood was known.

Aircraft and Distance.

F. W. Lanchester, an English aeronautical expert, says: "Any machine built expressly for long distance raiding will be essentially a relatively slow machine, since speed means en-

gine weight; it must be comparatively speaking, a relatively poor climber for the same reason. Again, it cannot afford to carry shield or armor, neither can weight be spared for a defensive gun armament. "All these facts mean that, as the distance to be raided becomes greater defense will become more and more easy and point to the conclusion that in actual warfare the maximum distance that can be effectively raided by aeroplane will be far less than the theoretical maximum."

A competitive test of milking machines in England, open to the world, was won by one of Swedish invention.

AMUSEMENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.

AMUSEMENTS.

Matinees, 10c
Our Prices Never Change.

CASINO THEATER
Seventh and F Sts.

Evenings, 15c
Our Prices Never Change.

You Paid Two Dollars a Seat Last Spring to See Thomas Dixon's

"THE BIRTH OF A NATION"

You Will Pay Ten and Fifteen Cents Today to See Thomas Dixon's Sensational Sequel,



The Story of America Helpless in the Grasp of a Foreign Foe.

With

VICTOR HERBERT'S MUSIC

(This is the first original score ever written by an eminent composer to accompany a great picture. It will be played in its magnificent entirety during the presentation here by an Augmented Orchestra of Grand Opera Proportions.)

First Time in Washington at 2:30 Today
and From Noon to 11 P. M. Every Day This Week

Here's the Prescription

R ALOIN
BELLADONNA
STRYCHNINE
CASCARIN
IPECAC

So You Know What You Are
Taking When You Take

E-Z TABLETS
(EASY)

The 20th Century Family Remedy

Dyspepsia Lazy Liver Headache Constipation Biliousness Heartburn
Insomnia Bad Blood Piles Worms Sour Stomach Bad Breath

Sold With This
Guarantee

If not relieved or cured by one 25-cent package
of E-Z Tablets, your money refunded.

100 ➡ Little Chocolate Tablets ➡ 25c
SAMPLE PACKAGE, 5 CENTS.

O'DONNELL'S, 904 F Street N. W.